



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

30 APRIL 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Man Pleads Guilty in \$100M Afghanistan Fraud Scheme

(U) A Granite Bay man pleaded guilty Tuesday in a scheme to bilk the Afghanistan government out of more than \$100 million with a phony bid to build an electric grid, authorities said. Saed Ismail Amiri, 38, entered a plea in Los Angeles federal court to one count of wire fraud, the US attorney's office said in a statement. The scheme involved Amiri's Afghan company, Assist Consultants Incorporated, federal prosecutors said. In 2015 and 2016, Amiri and others tried to win a US-funded contract to build five electric power substations in Afghanistan by submitting a false work history and phony supporting documents indicating the firm met requirements for the contract, prosecutors said.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Man Who Drove Through Peaceful Protest Pleads to Gun Charges

(U) A California man who drove a pickup truck through a crowd protesting the death of George Floyd last year has agreed to plead guilty to federal firearms offenses, the Los Angeles US Attorney's Office said yesterday. No one was hurt in the incident at an intersection in Pasadena, but the case involves an illegally obtained gun that Benjamin Jong Ren Hung, 28, brought with him to counterprotest, a prosecution press release said. According to prosecutors, Hung acknowledged participating in a multi-year conspiracy to make false statements to firearms dealers in Oregon and to illegally transport the firearms to California, evading registration laws. He gave cash to a co-conspirator in Oregon to buy handguns for him and to falsely state that the co-conspirator was the buyer. The co-conspirator then delivered the guns to Hung in California.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – Officer Killed by Suspect Driving Stolen Vehicle

(U) Gilbert – A Chandler police officer is dead, and another is critically hurt after they were hit by a suspect driving a stolen car after a pursuit that started in Eloy, officials confirmed Friday morning. The incident started as a traffic stop on State Route 87 and escalated into a pursuit once the suspect reportedly shot at a Pinal County deputy while fleeing. Officials say the suspect then fled on foot and stole a truck from a Ford dealership, hitting two officers and one of the dealership janitors. One of them was Officer Christopher Farrar, who later died from his injuries. The suspect, who was also hurt, was taken into custody after a gunfight with police. The suspect's identity has not been released.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [Fox 10 Phoenix](#)

(U) Florida – \$50 Million in Methamphetamine Seized, Tied to Juarez Cartel

(U) Winter Haven – A major drug bust led deputies to 120-gallons of liquid meth being transported in buckets, suspects from Georgia to Florida, and a "mastermind" who ran the operation from federal prison, officials said. Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd said "Operation Dirty Water" was the largest meth

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seizure in the county's history, and those involved in the organization had ties to the Juarez Mexican drug cartel. The investigation started back in early January when a package containing 2,500-pounds of Xanax pills from Ontario was intercepted before it could reach its destination in Winter Haven.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [Fox 13](#)

(U) New York – Man Found Guilty of Threatening Lawmakers

(U) New York City – After a one-week trial that featured testimony from a US Capitol police officer and a staffer for Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a New York-based Trump supporter was found guilty Wednesday of threatening to assault and murder members of US Congress in online statements he made before and after the 6 January Capitol attack. Brendan Hunt, 37, is scheduled to be sentenced on 22 June, and faces a maximum of 10-years in prison, the Justice Department said. Hunt's case was believed to be the first criminal trial connected to the Capitol riot, though he did not participate in the siege in DC. He was charged instead for statements he made online. A video that prosecutors said he posted two days after the Capitol riot on the video-sharing site Bitchute was titled "KILL YOUR SENATORS" and urged viewers to return to the Capitol with guns to "slaughter" members of Congress.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [CBS News](#)

(U) North Carolina – Two Deputies Killed in Shooting at North Carolina Home

(U) Boone – Police believe a gunman killed two sheriff's deputies, his mother, and his stepfather at a North Carolina home before killing himself Wednesday. The shooting sparked a lengthy standoff between the gunman and authorities in Boone, North Carolina, that ended late Wednesday night. The deputies were shot when they entered the home while conducting a welfare check Wednesday morning, the sheriff's office said. The homeowner's employer told authorities the homeowner didn't show up for work and wasn't responding to phone calls.

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [CBS News](#)

(U) Oregon – Police Investigate Death Threat to Mayor

(U) Portland – Portland police and the FBI are investigating a veiled online death threat against Mayor Ted Wheeler. The threat was made in a video on Twitter Wednesday night in which a self-confessed Antifa loyalist vows to continue rioting in the Oregon city, and includes the mayor's home address as a warning. A spokesman for Wheeler, said that the mayor and his office learned of the video Wednesday night and that the Portland Police Bureau opened an investigation.

SOURCE: 30 April 2021, [NY Post](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Authorities Charge Man for Raising Funds for ISIS

(U) Berlin – German prosecutors have charged an Iraqi immigrant with membership in a terrorist organization on allegations that he raised thousands of dollars for the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS), authorities said today. The man, identified only as Aymen A.-J. in line with German privacy laws, was arrested in early January on Germany's border with Switzerland as he allegedly was headed to link up with the organization, intending to fight in Syria or elsewhere, federal prosecutors said. The man came to Germany from Iraq in 2016 during a wave of migration, primary from the Middle East. He became interested in ISIS ideology by the end of 2018 and joined the extremist group no later than the beginning of 2020, according to prosecutors.

SOURCE: 30 April 2021, [Associated Press](#)

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(U) Spain – Authorities Arrest Three for Urging Attacks Against France

(U) Granada – Three men whose social media posts allegedly encouraged extremist attacks against French targets are in custody in Spain after Spanish police and the European Union's crime agency traced them to the southern city of Granada. The men threatened violent attacks against French people and interests abroad after the French magazine Charlie Hebdo republished caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad in September 2020, Spanish police and Europol said in a statement. Europol described the three men in Granada as "a terrorist cell." Spanish police said the trio focused their efforts on persuading young people to carry out violent acts, creating specific online content directed at them. SOURCE: 29 April 2021, [Associated Press](#)

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